

## Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### Stars of the week



**Class 1:** Sienne for her independent spelling and handwriting.

**Class 2:** Saul for his brilliant reading, super column addition, and helping others by being their teacher.

**Class 3:** Aurora for super teamwork skills.

**Class 4:** Roxy for going above and beyond with her homework and always being polite, helpful and working hard.

**CLASS 1:** This week we have been finding rhyme words and understanding that it is the end of the word where the rhyme will be. Ask your child to think of some rhyme words over the weekend. Reception children carried on with rhyme strings, i.e. bog, log, fog, dog, mog, chog, glog. We do allow these 'alien' words as this shows your child is using the skill of rhyming. In year 1 the children have been choosing a rhyme word from a given few e.g. 'The caterpillar giggled and.....' Is it chomped, crawled, wiggled or slithered?' In Maths reception are still finding out about the numbers up to 10, ordering, counting accurately, and writing corresponding numbers. We have also found out about our planet and some of the changes over millions of years. During the time of the dinosaurs earth had lots of volcanoes. The children were very excited to watch a video clip of an erupting and exploding volcano. Next, we made our own little volcanoes. We also baked some fossils and made dinosaur poo! The little scientists amongst us could tell what the dinosaurs had eaten because of the components in the poo!! Y1 children also had fun making Chinese Tangram dinosaurs at the beginning of the Chinese New Year celebrations.

**CLASS 2:** This week we have created "happiness is..." posters linked to our lessons exploring the teachings of Buddha. In music we have learnt the song "If you're happy and you know it". In art we have been thinking about how Jackson Pollack's work makes us feel energetic, and we used his technique in our volcano landscapes. In Science the children have started growing cress and are investigating how covering some with an opaque material will affect their growth. This is what scientists think happened to the Earth when a dust cloud from a massive meteor hit Mexico. We have also been taking part in the big bird watch. Next week we will be feeding the birds and will repeat the count next Friday. We predict there will be more birds.

### Key stage 1 visit to the library

Next week classes 1 and 2 will be visiting the Whitehaven library, to research dinosaurs. All the children will then register with the library and you will be able to visit it to borrow books which might be a nice thing to do if we have rainy days over half term.

**CLASS 3:** This week Class 3 have been hands on with their learning and applying a variety of skills. We celebrated Chinese New Year of the Tiger by looking at how the New Year is celebrated and thought about how we celebrate our New Year. We looked at street parades and how lion and dragon dances are performed. We also discussed parts of the Chinese culture, discussing the importance of jade, representation of colours and food, and parts of their trade and influence on other cultures from explorers. The children had a fantastic time making their own chocolate coins in red envelopes for good luck and prosperity and crafted decadent chocolate truffles and used fine motor and math's skills to construct their boxes to take home. In our Topic of Benin, the children have looked at how the kingdom traded and who they traded with outside of Africa. Using these techniques, the children then created their own tender of 'colourful beads' to trade with, deciding their worth and practiced trading fruit and vegetables found in West Africa. They used communication, problem solving and math's skills to see if they could make a profit or work out their loss. We plan to continue practicing our money/ trading skills by upgrading our produce to bronzes, clays, and jewellery, comparing to see how we could improve trade and work out the best price. In ICT the children have continued to develop and explore stop motion animation by planning a small film using plasticine to create the different movements and effects. We looked at a variety of examples of stop motion animation to gather ideas about how to use plasticine.

Super week Class 3, well done!

## CLASS THREE'S TRUFFLES AND BENIN MARKET



**CLASS 4:** 'Yesterday in class 4 we did some more investigations about light. We looked at prisms and how we could move and make light travel in a straight line. I was looking at how I could reflect it too. In maths Y5 have been learning about measuring the perimeter of shapes and their length and width. Y6 were doing decimals. In Music, we learned and sang a lullaby from Benin and in P.E. we played invasion games and used the parachute. We finished off our play scripts telling the historical story of slavery from the book 'Africa is my home' by Monica Edinger. On Tuesday we celebrated Chinese New Year and designed, cooked and evaluated vegetable stir fries and sauces. Yesterday, after our Big School Birdwatch in the garden, we had a cup of tea to go with our homemade shortbread.' By Logan.

### Dates for the Diary

DATE AND TIME	EVENTS
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	SWIMMING LESSONS FOR JUNIORS WILL BE EVERY MORNING THIS WEEK, FOR AN HOUR EVERY MORNING. The bus will pick them up at 10.30am to take them for their lesson for 11.00am-12.00pm from which they will be picked up and brought back to school for a later lunch. Can girls wear one piece swimsuits and wear hair tied back if it is long. Can boys please wear shorts that are above the knees as if they are long they are restrictive during the lessons. Can all pupils remove any jewellery. Goggles can be worn if needed. It is a good idea to supply 2 towels for the first day as the pupils will be having assessments and there may be a bit of sitting around. This is the way our swimming lessons will be held for now, rather than half an hour per week.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	We finish for half term at 3.15pm